

Glen's wife, Kay, their children, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and all his loved ones are in my prayers.

I would also like to extend a joyful, happy 25th birthday to Caroline and Charlie Kiley.

We also stand with Ukraine.

CONTINUING THE BIDEN BOOM

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Biden boom continues.

Last month, 678,000 jobs were created, and unemployment ticked down to 3.8 percent—less than 4 percent. This follows the greatest year of job growth in American history and the fastest economic growth in nearly 40 years.

But it is not only the fact that new jobs were created, Madam Speaker. It is also the fact that they are well-paying jobs—terrific and impressive. These jobs have given Americans the dignity of a good paycheck and much-needed financial breathing room.

On the public-health front, vaccination rates have increased 50 percent since last March, making it possible for 99.9 percent of our schools to reopen and stay safely open. This is the result of strong leadership in the White House, Congress' partnership, and the backing of the American people.

Together, we are building a better America, and we are standing strong with Ukraine.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 3, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 3, 2022, at 4:35 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 198.

That the Senate passed S. 2771.

That the Senate passed S. 3103.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3665.

Appointments:

Afghanistan War Commission (5)

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, March 7, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On November 30, 2021, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Randy Weber by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Weber did not file an appeal with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On December 14, 2022, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notice of a fine imposed upon Representative Andrew Clyde by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g).

On December 16, 2022, the Committee received notices of two fines imposed upon Representative Clyde by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g).

On January 13, 2022, the Committee received an appeal from Representative Clyde of the above fines pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). The appeal was received after the Committee adopted its written rules.

A majority of the Committee did not agree to the appeal.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, February 22, 2022.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: On January 18, 2022, the Committee on Ethics (Committee) received notices of two fines imposed upon Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene by the Sergeant at Arms pursuant to House Resolution 38 and House Rule II, clause 3(g). Representative Greene did not file appeals with the Committee prior to the expiration of the time period specified in clause 3(g)(3)(B) of House Rule II.

Sincerely,

THEODORE E. DEUTCH,
Chairman.
JACKIE WALORSKI,
Ranking Member.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GARCIA of Texas). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. Ross) at 4 o'clock p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES PRESERVATION ACT

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5615) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5615

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act".

SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES.

(a) PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a plan, informed by the survey information collected pursuant to subsection (b), to make Federal assistance available for at least three consecutive fiscal years to certain urban areas that in the current fiscal year did not receive grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604) and require continued Federal assistance for the purpose of preserving a homeland security capability related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to acts of terrorism that had been developed or otherwise supported through prior grant funding under such Initiative and allow for such urban areas to transition to such urban areas costs of preserving such homeland security capabilities.

(2) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT.**—The plan required under paragraph (1) shall also contain a prohibition on an urban area that in a fiscal year is eligible to receive Federal assistance described in such paragraph from also receiving grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. In such a case, such plan shall require such an urban area to promptly notify the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding the preference of such urban area to retain either—

(A) such eligibility for such Federal assistance; or

(B) such receipt of such grant funding.

(b) **SURVEY.**—In developing the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall, to ascertain the scope of Federal assistance required, survey urban areas that—

(1) did not receive grant funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 in the current fiscal year concerning homeland security capabilities related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to acts of terrorism that had been developed or otherwise supported through funding under such Initiative that are at risk of being reduced or eliminated without such Federal assistance;

(2) received such funding in the current fiscal year, but did not receive such funding in at least one fiscal year in the six fiscal years immediately preceding the current fiscal year; and

(3) any other urban areas the Secretary determines appropriate.

(c) **EXEMPTION.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security may exempt the Federal Emergency Management Agency from the requirements of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”), for purposes of carrying out subsection (b) if the Secretary determines that complying with such requirements would delay the development of the plan required under subsection (a).

(d) **CONTENTS.**—The plan required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) establish eligibility criteria for urban areas to receive Federal assistance pursuant to such plan to provide assistance for the purpose described in such subsection;

(2) identify annual funding levels for such Federal assistance in accordance with the survey required under subsection (b); and

(3) consider a range of approaches to make such Federal assistance available to such urban areas, including—

(A) modifications to the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 in a manner that would not affect the availability of funding to urban areas under such Initiative;

(B) the establishment of a competitive grant program;

(C) the establishment of a formula grant program; and

(D) a timeline for the implementation of any such approach and, if necessary, a legislative proposal to authorize any such approach.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 5615, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.

In the wake of September 11, there was a recognition that cities across the Nation could be targeted for terrorism and that they did not have the resources to develop core capabilities to prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist attacks and other catastrophic events on their own.

Starting in 2003, cities across the Nation began receiving dedicated counterterrorism grant funding from the Department of Homeland Security’s Urban Area Security Initiative grant program.

The UASI program, as it has come to be known, provides first responders with the tools, resources, and training they need to safely and effectively protect their communities.

At its height, the UASI program funded approximately 60 cities.

In recent years, however, the number of cities receiving funding from the program has been reduced to, on average, 30 each year.

While support to cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago has remained constant, year-to-year fluctuations in grant funding levels and changes in DHS’ risk formula have resulted in some cities losing funding unexpectedly.

As a result, cities like Orlando, Las Vegas, and Omaha face uncertainty year after year about whether they will receive UASI funding or will be forced to try and maintain core homeland security capabilities on their own.

The sudden loss of Federal support places great strain on cities that often lack the resources to cover such unexpected costs.

My bill, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act, which is cosponsored by my friend from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) recognizes the importance of preserving capabilities achieved with Federal grant dollars, particularly given how dynamic the terrorism threat landscape is today.

It directs DHS to develop a plan for how to support the transition of costs associated with maintaining homeland security core capabilities achieved through UASI investments.

Specifically, my bill would direct DHS, acting through FEMA, to survey current and former UASI cities regarding their capabilities that were achieved through UASI grant funding that are at risk of being reduced or eliminated without Federal assistance.

Additionally, the bill would require DHS, if needed, to submit a plan on

how to make Federal assistance available to former UASI jurisdictions to take on the costs of preserving UASI-funded homeland security capabilities, including legislation.

This plan is the first step to ensure that all cities have the capabilities they need to secure themselves from terrorist threats.

Madam Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5615, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.

The DHS Urban Area Security Initiative provides critical funding to high-risk urban areas. Since UASI funding is risk-based, there are urban areas that develop and support certain counterterrorism capabilities using the grant funding but don’t remain on the high-risk list and therefore don’t consistently receive funding every year.

This legislation simply directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit to Congress a plan to make Federal assistance available for at least 3 consecutive fiscal years to certain urban areas that did not receive funding under UASI.

This plan will inform Congress about the needs and concerns of certain urban areas that may not consistently receive such funding.

I urge Members to join me in supporting H.R. 5615, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 5615 is the first step in ensuring that cities that fall on and off the UASI list will have the opportunity to preserve their capabilities that were built out with the funding provided by the program.

Enacting H.R. 5615 is timelier now more than ever, particularly given how dynamic the terrorist threat landscape is today.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5615, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5615.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS BASIC TRAINING ACCREDITATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the